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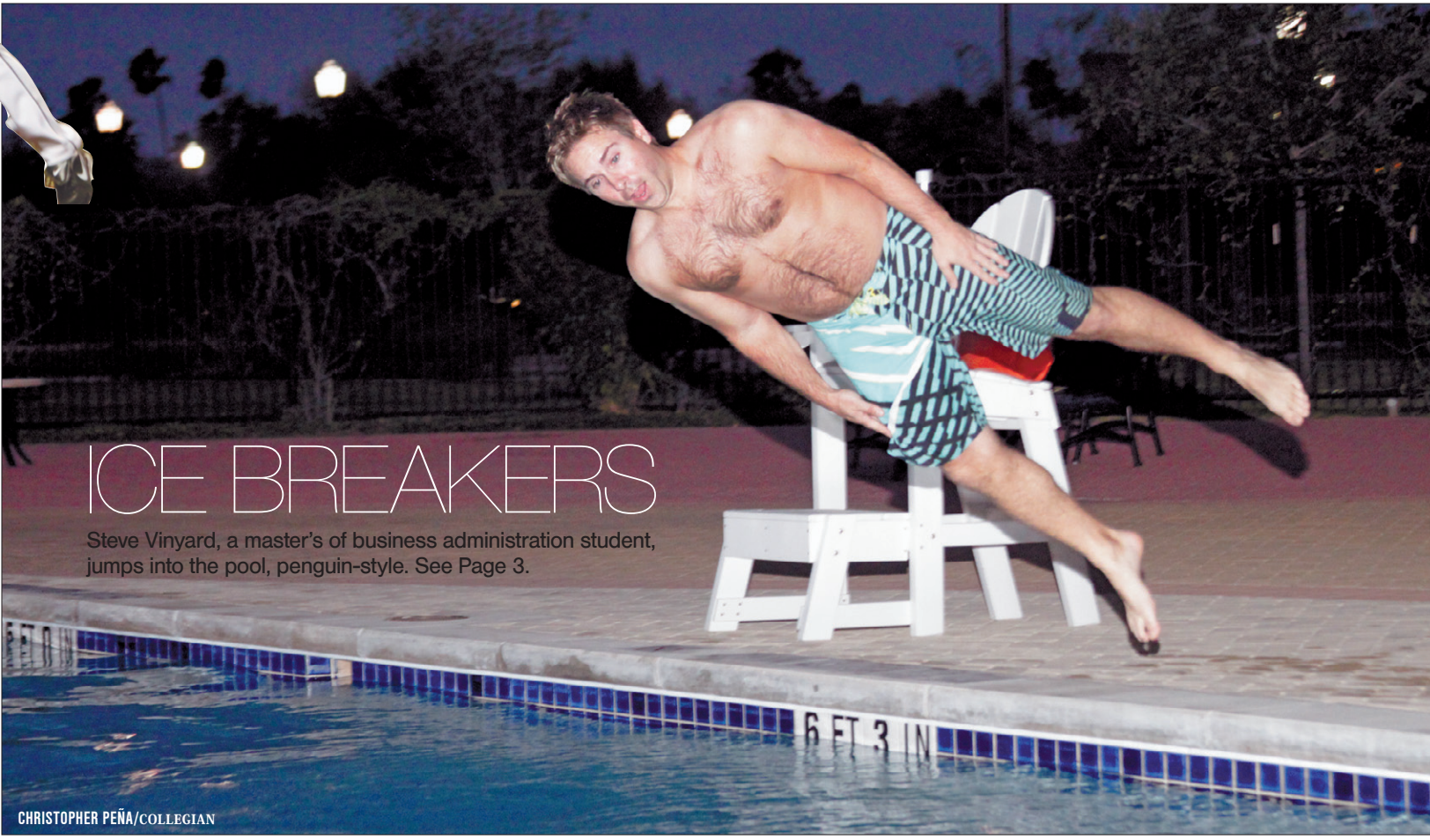
**SAVE!**  
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**ON THE WEB**  
  
**ÓRALE**  
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at our redesigned website  
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**CATCH UP ON NEWS  
THAT MATTERS  
on our Website**  
**>> Bill Gates  
injects \$750M  
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Global Fund**  
**>> Romney is  
the aggressor  
in final Florida  
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**NOW HIRING**  
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**ICE BREAKERS**  
Steve Vinyard, a master's of business administration student,  
jumps into the pool, penguin-style. See Page 3.

CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN

# AMENDED

## SGA Senate to examine speech, expression, assembly amendments to campus policy



MIGUEL ANGEL ROBERTS/COLLEGIAN

Student Government Association President Arturo Guerra takes roll during last Tuesday's meeting. Not enough members of the senate attended to meet quorum. Also shown are Vice President for Accounting and Finance Pedro Rangel, Vice President of Administration Normalinda Reyna and Senator at Large Marisol Cervantes.

**By Michelle Serrano**  
THE COLLEGIAN

The Student Government Association is reviewing proposed amendments to the university's rules on speech and expression. During the senate's meeting last Tuesday, Judicial Affairs Coordinator David Mariscal said the draft amendments pertain to Section 6 of the Handbook of Operating Procedures, titled "Student Expression and Assembly." He said the amendments require

student input and the HOP is not yet finalized. "Expression of Speech and Assembly ... is the most applicable and most of interest to you, as far as how we go about in the university as far as expressing ourselves," Mariscal said of the 30-page document given to the SGA for review and input. "As a community we retain our right to free speech and assembly and association, but how we go about expressing those things is important. Because this is still a university, it has a

mission of education, and we don't want to impose on that mission and interrupt anybody's ability--or freedom--to a right to an education. So there are some limitations to speech expression and assembly." He further discussed other proposed changes to the HOP, in areas regarding students and student organizations' rights and responsibilities, what is allowed free speech and what is not allowed free speech (such as disruptive and interfering behavior),



CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN

Texas Southmost College Trustee David Oliveira defends the cost of the bond construction projects during the Jan. 19 meeting of the board of trustees.

## Bond project overruns raise flags at TSC board meeting

**By Joe Molina**  
THE COLLEGIAN

Robert Agüero's official welcome as the new vice president for instruction and student services has been overshadowed by news of Texas Southmost College's "cost overruns" in its bond issue construction projects. TSC trustees hired the services of Spire Consulting Group LLC late last year for a review and analysis of the bond projects. President Lily Tercero introduced Spire's Managing Consultant Dana Fetrow and Vice President John Wolfe to present their findings during the Jan. 19 board meeting. Fetrow said the bond construction project grew from \$68 million to \$109,855,122 as of November 2009. In order to meet the increase in budgets over time, additional funding was secured from various sources, including bond issuances, interest and grants, UT-Brownsville and TSC. Chet Lewis, TSC's vice president for finance and administration, said that after the November 2004 bond issue election, the decision was made to combine the kinesiology building project with the recreation center project. In March 2004, students had voted to assess themselves a fee to finance a \$13.5 million recreation



THE COLLEGIAN

The Collegian is the multimedia student newspaper serving the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. The newspaper is widely distributed on campus and is an award-winning member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

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Weekly What's UP

Want your event to be featured? Submit event information one week in advance, before 5 p.m. Tuesday to collegian@utb.edu. First come first serve, but student organization events are given preference.  
--Compiled by Michelle Serrano

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
<b>'Machistas y Vanidad'</b>  The Gallery at Rusteberg Hall hosts Noel Palmenez's "Machistas y Vanidad" through Feb. 17. The show deals with "how we wish to perceive ourselves and what we desire," Palmenez's artist statement says. For gallery hours, see Page 5.	<b>Backward Day</b>  Eat your dessert before your meal or listen to Kriss Kross' song "Warm It Up" while dancing around in your backwards clothes.	<b>Black History Month</b>  February observes the African diaspora in a number of countries, including the United States. Notable contributors to BHM are poet Gil Scott-Heron, political punk band Bad Brains, graffiti artist Jean-Michel Basquiat and the historic Tuskegee Airmen currently featured in the motion picture "Red Tails."	<b>Groundhog Day</b>  Will the groundhog see its shadow today? This German-born tradition predicts the length of winter depending on whether the groundhog sees its shadow or not. A visible shadow indicates there will be six more weeks of cold weather while no shadow indicates an early spring.	<b>Ska-punks on 14th</b>  Ska music originates from Jamaica and combines jazz, Caribbean and R&B sounds for a skank-n-bop good time. Join Chapas Bar, "The Pit," from 8 to 11 p.m. with bands such as Hit the Lip, Los Loco Locals and Chile con Carne performing. Admission is \$5.	<b>Social Banter</b>  Have some fun at Peace and Coffee from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at 2405 W. University Dr. Suite E, Edinburg, where bands Social Banter, Vagrants, Japanese to English and Remnants will perform for free! Donations are encouraged and all proceeds go to the performers.	<b>Superbowl at Haven</b>  Haven will host a Superbowl XLVI viewing event from 2 to 11 p.m. at 1237 E. Adams St. There will be music, performances, dancing and food. Kickoff is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. For more information, call Haven at 343-8446.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PROFESSIONAL WOMEN SCHOLARSHIP**  
Tuesday is the deadline to apply for the **Professional Women Speak Spring 2012 scholarship.** Those interested in applying should visit [utb.edu/em/fa/documents/scholarships/1112/pwsscholarshipfinal.pdf](http://utb.edu/em/fa/documents/scholarships/1112/pwsscholarshipfinal.pdf). For more information, contact [olga.garcia@utb.edu](mailto:olga.garcia@utb.edu) or call 882-7015.

**FREE TAX PREPARATION**  
Starting Wednesday, taxpayers who have low or limited income (under \$49,000), individuals with disabilities, non-English speaking and elderly taxpayers can receive help to complete their tax returns. Volunteers will be available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays in room F9 of the ITEC Center, 301 Mexico Blvd. The service will continue through April 14, but will be closed during Spring Break. For more information, call 882-4108.

**BONGO BALL**  
The **Office of Student Life** and **Campus Recreation** present **"Bongo Ball Mania"** from 3:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday in the REK Center. Players hide between, under and behind obstacles as they advance in the battlefield of flying Nerf balls to capture the flag and win the game. For more information, call the Office of Student Life at 882-5138 or Campus Recreation at 882-5967.

**EMPIRICAL LINGUSITICS LECTURE**  
English Associate Professor **John G. Newman** will present a symposium titled **"Doing Empirical Linguistics in the Age of Electronic Language Corporation"** at 12:15 p.m. Thursday in the Cavalry Hall Faculty Study. The event is sponsored by the **College of Liberal Arts.** For more information, call Behavioral Sciences Professor **Luis Rodriguez-Abad** at 882-8245.  
**'MIRACLE' PREMIERE**  
Actors **Esai Morales** and **María Conchita Alonso** are scheduled to attend the world

premiere of the docudrama **"Miracle at Donna"** at 8 p.m. Thursday in Hidalgo's State Farm Arena. The film illustrates the true story of the 1961 football championship team of the **Donna High School Redskins** by director/producer **Frank Aragon.** For more information, visit [miracleatdonnafilm.com](http://miracleatdonnafilm.com).

**SCORPION LAW SOCIETY**  
The **Scorpion Law Society** meets at 5 p.m. every Friday in Cardenas Hall South 110 (location may be subject to change). For more information, call SLS Secretary **Miriam Aguayo** at 203-2908.

**XANADU MUSICAL & PROM**  
The **Camille Lightner Playhouse** introduces Brownsville to a Greek muse's quest to establish a roller disco in an adaptation of Robert Greenwald's cult classic, **"Xanadu."** The musical will be presented Feb. 10-12 and 17-19 in the Camille Playhouse, 500 Ringgold St. A 21+ **Xanadu Prom** will be held at 8 p.m. Feb. 11 in the playhouse's DeStefano Room. Expect a prom atmosphere complete with chaperones, posed photographs, karaoke, disco ball, disc jockey and dance floor. Vintage prom-wear is encouraged. Tickets are \$40. For tickets and show times, call 542-8900 or visit [www.camilleplayhouseonline.com](http://www.camilleplayhouseonline.com).

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENT**  
The **Gospel Mass Choir,** under the direction of Minister **Donald Hamm,** will perform at 6 p.m. Feb. 13 in the SET-B Lecture Hall. Admission is free. For more information, call **Brenda Valero** at 882-5742.

**CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS**  
Those interested in learning to relieve stress and the art of handling mind and life are invited to sign up for a **Youth Empowerment Seminar** (YES+), a program that addresses depression, high-level stress, suicide and violence. YES+ is an educational and life skill course that incorporates yoga, breathing exercises and meditation in a fun process that helps increase confidence, focus, concentration,

efficiency and improve interpersonal relationships. For more information on YES+, visit <http://us.yesplus.org>. To sign up, email [sweta.kumar@artofliving.org](mailto:sweta.kumar@artofliving.org), or call 550-8672 or 579-4811.

**'CALIFORNIA DREAMING'**  
California is big but UTB students are running all over the state this semester through a simulation program called "California Marathon." The program consists of a total of 136 miles starting from Los Angeles and ending in San Diego. Participants will track the miles they run on the treadmill and prizes will be awarded to those who accomplish 32, 75 and 136 miles. For more information or to sign up, visit the REK Center's upper fitness desk.

**GUITAR CLASSES**  
Students interested in learning guitar or brushing up on their skills are encouraged to sign up for UTB guitar classes. Guitar I and II will be offered this semester and are open to all majors. For more information, contact guitar instructor [jonathan.dotson@utb.edu](mailto:jonathan.dotson@utb.edu).

**ROTC INTERNSHIP**  
**UTB/TSC ROTC** invites sophomore, junior and grad students to apply for the summer **2012 Army ROTC Internship.** Students will receive an all-expense paid training at Fort Knox, Ky. The four-week course can earn students \$5,000 if they decide to contract with ROTC after the training. For more information, call the ROTC at 882-7630.

--Compiled by Michelle Serrano

CORRECTION

An article about the new meningitis shot requirement published in the Jan. 23 issue of *The Collegian* incorrectly spelled the name of Jamie Schanbaum, a survivor of bacterial meningitis.

POLICE REPORTS

The following are among the incidents reported to Campus Police between Jan.17 and 19.

**Tuesday, Jan.17**  
**10:52 a.m.:** A student reported that she had a verbal dispute with another student over a parking space in Lot V. She said that at 9:15 she stopped behind a Volkswagen Jetta that was waiting to park in a spot where someone was exiting. The student inside the Jetta asked her to reverse but she did not because there was another vehicle behind her, so the other student became angry. The student who reported the incident said that the other student could not have parked there because she was too far ahead so she took the parking space instead. When she parked there the other student came out of her vehicle and started cursing at her. At 11:30, Campus Police met with that student and she told them that she was cut off from the parking space she was going to park in. The officer advised her that students should not be fighting over parking spaces and if she wanted to park close to her class she would have to come to school earlier. The report was forwarded to the dean of students.

**Wednesday, Jan.18**  
**10:32 a.m.:** A Chick-fil-A employee reported that two students asked for emergency medical services because they had consumed marijuana. The employee said the students arrived at 9:35 a.m. and bought two sandwiches and sat down to eat. He said a few minutes later they asked for help saying they wanted EMS. He called for assistance and the two were transported to Valley Baptist Medical Center-Brownsville. Campus Police arrived in the hospital at 11:30 and stated that the girls looked disoriented. The students told the officer that the day before they met with a man in the Jack in the Box restaurant by Gladys Porter High School who sold them marijuana-laced brownies. Both ate one and a half pieces of the brownies. Police were later advised that their drug screenings came back negative.

**4:18 p.m.:** The Barnes & Noble Bookstore manager reported that she witnessed three people placing various items in their shopping bag without paying for them. The manager approached the two students and the visitor and recovered \$85 worth of unpaid merchandise. The students were issued a court appearance citation for theft and the visitor was released with no charges against her.

**Thursday, Jan.19**  
**3:13 a.m.:** Campus Police found a student walking around the Casa Bella parking lot after he had already been asked to leave for being in an apartment past curfew. The officer noticed that after being asked to leave the student housing complex the student began walking into another building and entered a room. The officer and a resident assistant asked him to step out of the room and the officer arrested him on a charge of criminal trespassing. He was transported to Carrizales-Rucker Detention Center. Upon arrival at the detention center the officer smelled alcohol and asked him if he was under the influence. The student admitted to having consumed alcohol, at which point he was placed under the care of the detention center.

**3:09 p.m.:** A student reported that a vehicle struck hers while she was parking in Lot AB. She said that the other car was backing out of a parking space when she was driving into another one. Her vehicle sustained \$500 in damages and the other vehicle \$50. No injuries were reported.

**3:35 p.m.:** A student reported that she had choked on some food while she was eating in the Life and Health Sciences Building at around 3:30. Another student performed the Heimlich maneuver on her. He was able to dislodge a piece of food from her throat but she still complained of feeling something inside. She was transported to Valley Regional Medical Center-Brownsville.

--Compiled by Samantha Ruiz





# PENGUIN PLUNGE 2012

CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN PHOTOS

UTB/TSC lifeguards Zabdiel González, Alex López and Jackie Margenau plunge into the REK Center pool.

By Jasmin Euceda  
THE COLLEGIAN

Penguin Plunge may be one of the most exciting events during all of this spring semester’s Welcome Week. Fifty students gathered at the REK Center swimming pool for the event last Tuesday.

Jamie Barnhill, aquatics events coordinator for the Recreation, Education and Kinesiology Center, is originally from Chicago and brought the idea along with her when she moved to Brownsville.

“We do the polar bear plunge up north; they literally cut the ice out of [Lake] Michigan, and then you jump in, it’s more intense,” Barnhill said. “But I thought of bringing some of that fun activity down here. Last year was cold; this year was little bit warmer.”

The reason behind this is to help students “break the ice,” so to speak, and get back into the rhythm of school.

“This is the second year that we’ve done it, it’s kind of the grand finale [of] Welcome Week,” Barnhill said. “It’s not a competitive event, it is a fun way for [students] to jump in as a team and get a free T-shirt and hot chocolate.”

She encourages community members, family and friends to



**Above**  
Iván Torres, a junior Spanish translation and interpreting major, cannon bombs into the REK Center pool.

**Below**  
UTB/TSC students Daniel Mares (from left), Karilú Hernández, Julio Navarro and Vivi Treviño dance during the Penguin Plunge last Tuesday at the REK Center.



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Dive into the full gallery at our newly redesigned website.

come in and join them in this fun event next year.

Freshman Daisy Garza, an education major, was a first-time participant at the Penguin Plunge this year.

“It was not cold, next year should be cooler, I wanted to try last year but I didn’t get a chance,” Garza said.

Sophomore Jackie Margenau, an education major, is also a lifeguard at the REK and was happy about this year’s turnout.

“It’s been a success,” Margenau said. “We usually see the same faces, [but] we would like to see more [of a]

See PENGUIN, Page 6



By Samantha Ruiz  
THE COLLEGIAN

Students can now enjoy a hearty Chick-fil-A morning meal on campus. The restaurant, located in El Comedor at the Student Union, started serving breakfast on Jan.17, officials said.

Bernie Gomez, a marketing director for the corporation, said that store owner Alex Aviles decided to include it on the menu in order to provide students with breakfast.

“The student body was asking for a broader menu,” Gomez said. “They were asking for coffee and maybe some breakfast options for them; I believe there was only another place on campus [offering breakfast] ... ”

The breakfast menu includes coffee, orange juice, spicy and original chicken biscuits, sausage biscuits and oatmeal.

Gomez said she is glad to be expanding the Chick-fil-A menu at UTB/TSC.

“We’re very excited, No.1, to offer more variety for the student body,” she said. “Certain items have been requested and we’re trying to accommodate that request. We’re excited to have more menu items this semester than last semester.”

The restaurant serves breakfast from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.

In response to the frequently asked question, will Chick-fil-A start cooking its food here and begin to offer its waffles fries and chicken nuggets, Gomez replied that they are collaborating with the corporation to get things finalized.

“We’re very aggressively working with corporate to get our equipment in,” she

## ON THE MENU

CHICKEN BISCUIT .....	\$2.49
SPICY CHICKEN BISCUIT .....	\$2.59
SAUSAGE BISCUIT .....	\$2.09
3 COUNT MINIS .....	\$2.65
CINNAMON CLUSTER .....	\$2.25
OATMEAL .....	\$2.99
LARGE COFFEE .....	\$1.85 (free refill)

### HOURS

Breakfast: 7:30-10 a.m.

Lunch: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

said. “They have told us that it will happen soon, it’s just a matter of time [and] maybe before Spring Break we should have a full service menu out there.”

Many students still aren’t aware of the new menu.

Sophomore government major Omar Mascorro didn’t know about the update but thinks that Chick-fil-A should continue to extend its menu.

“[I want] them to serve fries and chicken nuggets and their prices to go lower,” Mascorro said.

Yareli Iglecias, a sophomore majoring in biology premed and Spanish translation, said that she is happy about the new breakfast items available but added that she wouldn’t be able to enjoy them during her diet.

Iglecias suggested that the restaurant sell their milkshakes as well.

“Those are really good,” she said.

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IN ONE  
PLACE

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The Office of Student Media is seeking applicants for the position of **photographer** for the Spring 2012 semester.

Applicants must be enrolled at UTB/TSC during the Spring 2012 semester and have and maintain a grade-point average of 2.2 or higher per semester.

The deadline to apply is noon **Friday, Feb. 3, 2012.**

Applications are available in Student Union 1.28.

For more information, call the Office of Student Media at 882-5143.

## Retirement Preparation Planning

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# What's Your Beef?

## Where are the pool sticks?

“The game room, they have the four tables closed because they have no pool sticks, but they have the [pool] balls for it. I would really appreciate it if [the Student Union] had more resources to hang around campus more. ... I’m kind of sick and I can’t really be doing too much busy activities, so I like little fun stuff like games.”



**Hilario Montalvo**  
Sophomore emergency medical science major

## Campus needs ATM

“Well, it’s not really an issue, but it’s something I wish we had here on campus is, a Wells Fargo ATM, because I usually have to walk all the way to Wells Fargo, and get money, and then walk all the way back, just to get [money for] lunch.”



**Raul Izaguirre**  
Freshman art major

## Better maps, please

“Basically, the issue is walking. It’s a great distance from class to class for a freshman, who is walking all over the campus. I think they should make individual maps, to be exact where the classrooms are, because we get lost the first year.”



**Abdiel Leija**  
Freshman management major

# TWEET IT



Tell us your beef via Twitter. Just use #mybeef and mention us, @utbcollegian. Do it now!

–Compiled by Marlane Ashley Rodriguez  
–Photos by Valerie Nichole Secrease

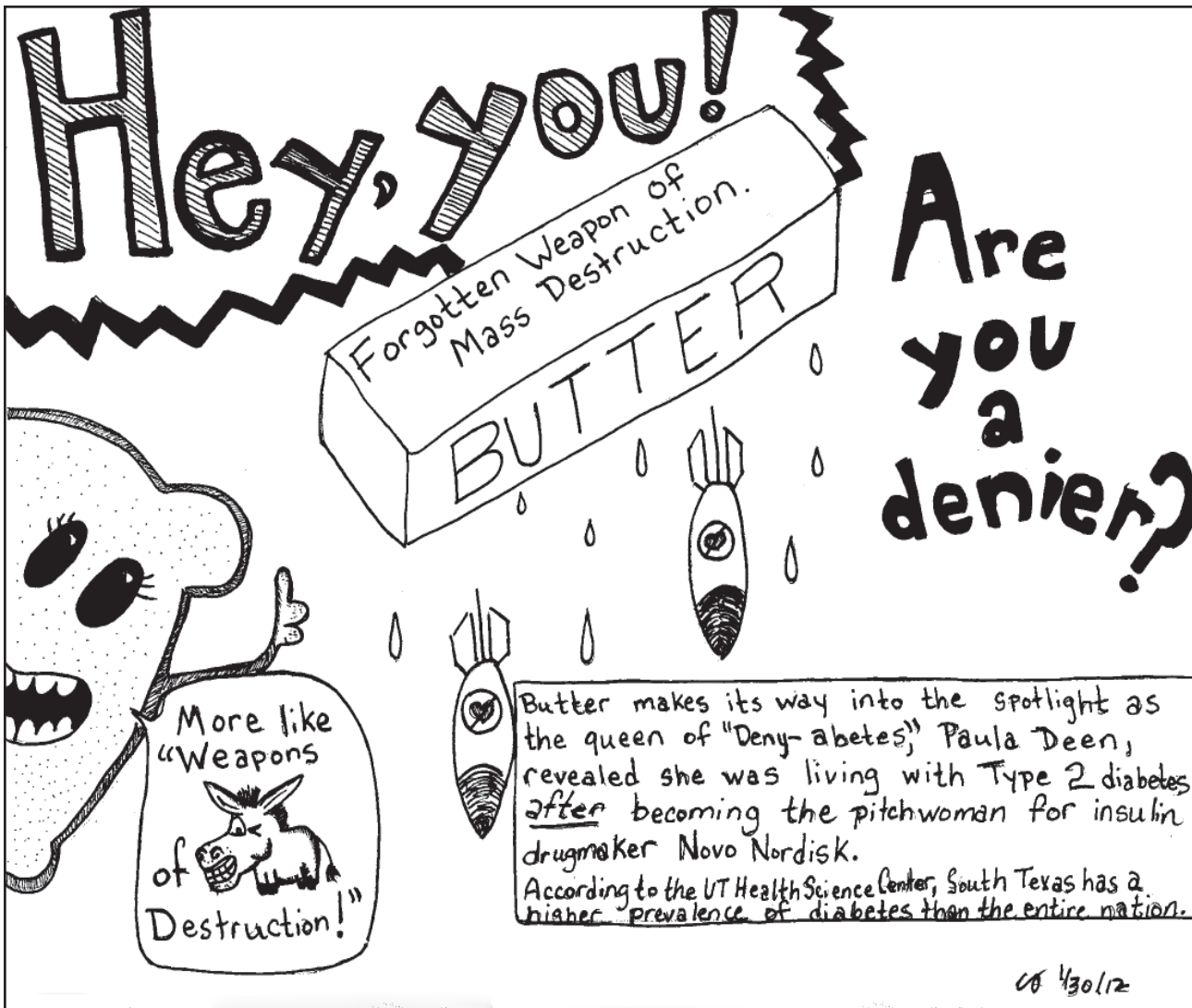
# Letters TO THE EDITOR

### Policy

Letters to the editor must include the name, classification and phone number of the author or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in *The Collegian* are those of writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Collegian* or UTB/TSC administrators. The editor reserves the right to edit the letters. Send your letters to collegian@utb.edu.

## Report Mexico news fairly

I am a reader of *The Collegian*. However, even though I am aware of your aim to inform your audience about current and regional issues, I feel very disappointed by your selection of hard news. Did not you hear about the “Fast and Furious” American operation or the money laundering Americans did in Mexico? I remember the news about the killing of ICE [Agent Jaime Zapata], but why didn’t you write that the weapon used in the killing was one of those of the “Fast



# The same ol’, same ol’

By Rene Cardona Jr.  
COLLEGIAN EDITOR

Talking to my roommate about being slated to graduate in May, I articulated that what I learned felt like a no-brainer now that I knew it. He, being a chemistry major, pointed to the fact that I am studying the “soft” stuff--sociology and English--which are unlikely to lead to a high-paying job, anyway. One has to think, though, about what



you learned and how you must mold it to fit into the status quo--lest you live rebelling and trapped in idealism. However, this maxim can be further applied to us as Hispanics. Have you realized what being Hispanic in America truly is? Because, I’ll tell you: It’s not like being Hispanic in the Rio Grande Valley, but in many ways it is.

Passiveness and subjugation are traits that Hispanics must deal with, as I recently noted by reading Tomás Rivera’s “... y no se lo tragó la tierra” (“... And the Earth Did Not Devour Him”). Rivera paints through seemingly disjointed vignettes the struggle of a Mexican-American boy to find his place in America. Although tragedy befalls many of the characters, the older generations hold on to Catholicism, which teaches the poor go to heaven, and a passiveness about bad luck. Disenchantment and finding oneself take center stage of the book’s short works, but the poignant

message underlies how the protagonist and perhaps Hispanics in general must contend with being caught in perpetual passiveness and subjugation or “sleeping-giant syndrome.” Just like with the job market and crafting yourself and skills to fit into it, one cannot live doing as they wish with complete disregard of the wider circumstances.

We have many challenges at a cultural and institutional level: Texas Southmost College went over its construction budget as UTB deals with losing building space and revenue. These current-day situations cannot be dealt with as other issues have been dealt with in the past, and how our Mexican-American nature inclines us to deal with them. The ultimate message Rivera seeks to make is, as we have always heard and been told yet never do, is work together, be aware of our brotherhood and,

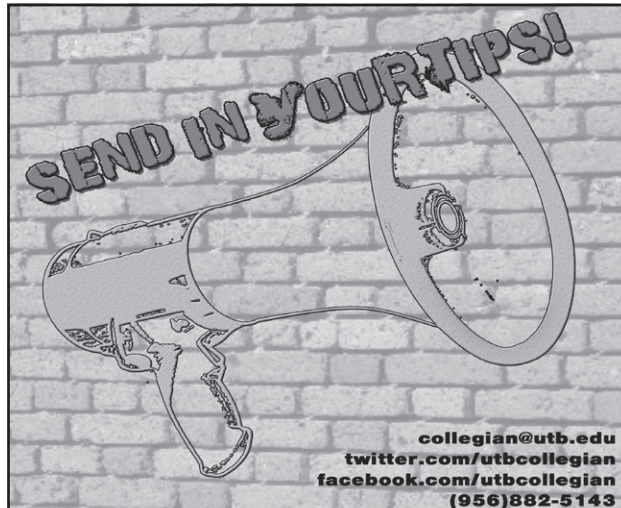
perhaps, ignore the American individualism that has the potential to divide us--as I fear it already has done. Are we stuck? Well, no; we can’t be. But will we move forward as a whole, aware of the intricacies that make heads spin? Or will we shove our heads in the claylike soil so common in the Valley and let those in the upper echelons deal with it? They’ve been dealing with it all along, anyway. No secrecy; no disappointment. It’s all rainbows in the land of milk and honey. Money, of course, keeps it that way, which makes me think I should’ve just continued being a chemistry major.

“WILL WE SHOVE OUR HEADS IN THE CLAYLIKE SOIL SO COMMON IN THE VALLEY AND LET THOSE IN THE UPPER ECHELONS DEAL WITH IT? THEY’VE BEEN DEALING WITH IT ALL ALONG, ANYWAY.”

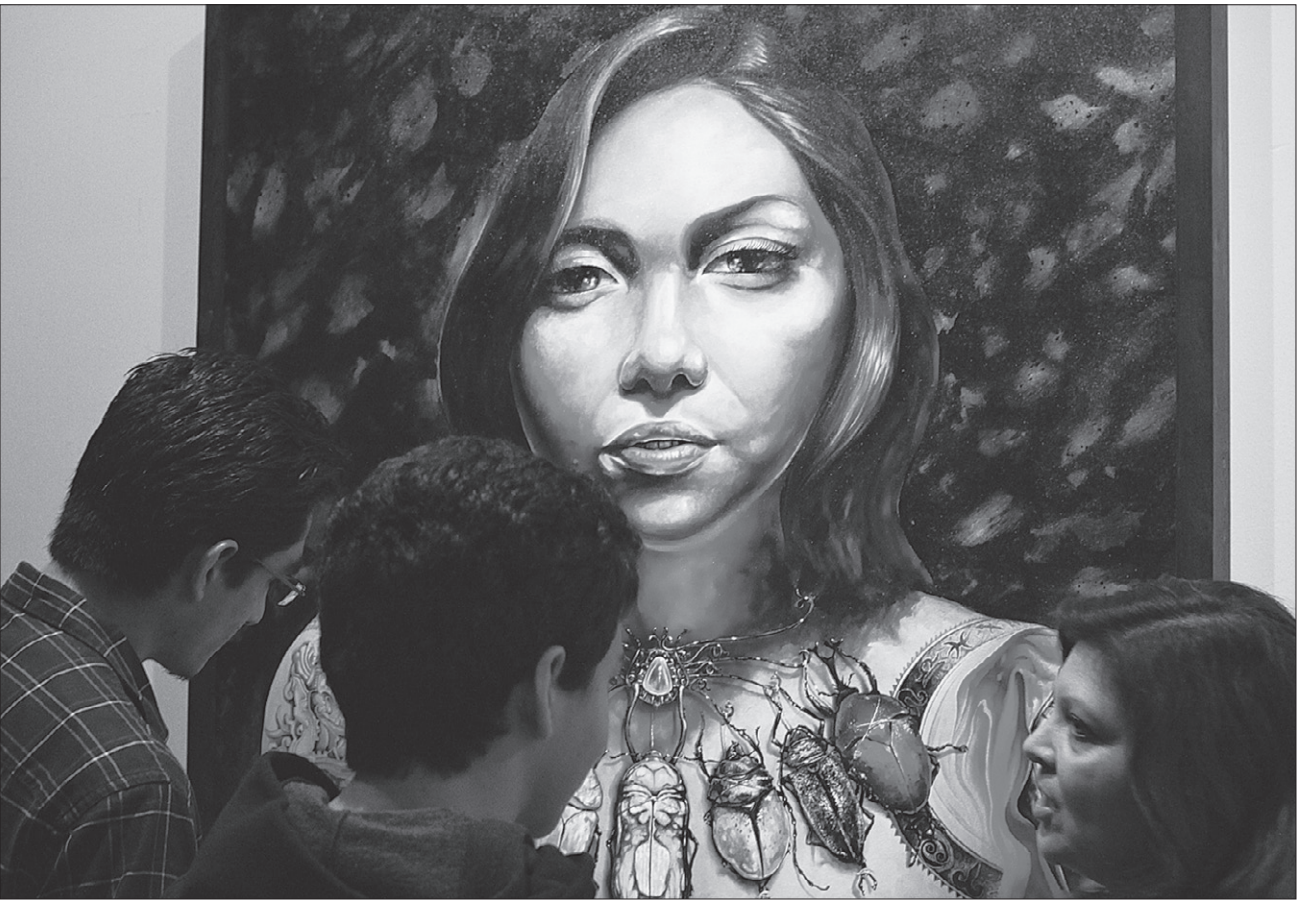
Rene Cardona Jr.  
Collegian Editor

and Furious” operation? The cartoonist drew something about Mexican violence, but what happened when the U.S. started to be involved in what is happening in Mexico? No joke for that! As a student and reader, I ask you to consider being fair with the situation in Mexico, even more now that the U.S. involvement is obvious. I love the U.S. but people from Brownsville are blind about the facts, and you have the power to clarify everything. I would like to congratulate you for the Spanish section; it is nice to know someone in the Valley writes Spanish beautifully and does not hesitate to use words that we don’t usually hear over here. Also, Rene Cardona’s articles are my favorite!

Claudia López Clark







MIGUEL ANGEL ROBERTS/COLLEGIAN PHOTOS

UTB/TSC graduate Delfino Martinez (from left), Lopez High School freshman Manuel Saldivar and Lopez High School art teacher and UTB/TSC graduate Marie Muñiz discuss Noel Palmenez's "Strength of Symbols" during last Tuesday's opening reception for the faculty member's "Machistas y Vanidad" exhibit.

# Through the eyes of Palmenez

Faculty member takes on 'Machistas y Vanidad' in exhibit

By Marlane Ashley Rodriguez  
THE COLLEGIAN

The yellowish red tint of a painting of a woman's face, her chest covered by a necklace of multicolored beetles and a plethora of vibrant tattoos on her hands, caught the attention of a crowd of students at Rusteberg Hall last Tuesday.

The large oil-on-canvas piece is titled "Strength of Symbols" and is one of the artworks in Visual Arts adjunct faculty member Noel Palmenez's "Machistas y Vanidad" exhibit, which is part of the 27th season of the Patron of the Arts program.

The collection consists of 19 pieces, all circling around the theme of masculinity and vanity.

Palmenez said it is men's aspiration to be more powerful and manly and women's aspiration to be more beautiful that inspired him to work with that theme.

"I was trying to go for the ideas of weaknesses within ourselves," he said. "How we easily get consumed by something."

The artist said each painting took him about 40 to 60 hours to create.



Freshman criminal justice major Nathan Hoffelner (left) and senior biology major Diana Treviño study Noel Palmenez's "To Find Beauty within Life."

## COMING UP

- FACULTY STRING QUARTET: 8 p.m. Wednesday in the Arts Center. Admission is \$5 for students and \$15 for non-students.
  - ART EXHIBIT: Begins March 23. Work by Jesus de la Rosa, Visual Arts Department faculty member, will be featured.
- >> For more information on Patron of the Arts, call 882-7025.

"You spend so much time on a piece, you almost get very intimate with all the little areas that you work," he said.

"To Find Beauty within Life," (oil on canvas) matched the theme of vanity flawlessly. The painting depicts an elderly woman attempting to look

more beautiful with a Hawaiian garland. Birds flutter about her and some are perched on the garland.

Three screen-print skulls, all titled "Your Last Breath," created with color pencils and a Sharpie depict the dangers of smoking.

Junior art major and tattoo artist Rudy Altamirano was among the students at the exhibit. Altamirano said he went to the exhibit because of his interest in Palmenez's art. He said his favorite piece is "Strength of Symbols" (oil on canvas).

Altamirano said he is inspired by the painting and Palmenez's work because of the vibrant style that incorporates tattoos.

Senior art major Pamela Acosta said she was there to support Palmenez, her former art teacher.

At the center of the exhibit attendees can read Palmenez's artist statement on a wooden sculpture. The outlook summarizes his inspiration and reason for working with the theme of "Machistas y Vanidad."

The exhibit will be on display until Feb. 17. The Gallery at Rusteberg Hall is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday. Admission is \$1.

## Dance like a Grecian



Students line dance during the Greek Ball, held Jan. 20 in the Student Union's Gran Salon. The event was sponsored by Kappa Omega, Mu Alpha Nu, Omega Gamma Rho, Sigma Psi Delta, Tau Kappa Epsilon and Student Life. About 80 students attended.



Mu Alpha Nu members Damon Hicks, a junior computer information systems major, and Rolando Ocañas, a senior history major, vote for Greek emperor and empress during the Greek Ball held Jan. 20 in the Student Union's Gran Salon. Dance attendees donated canned goods (background) that were sent to the RGV Food Bank. Hicks was elected emperor and Sigma Psi Delta member Justine Fernandez was elected empress.

MICHELLE SERRANO/COLLEGIAN PHOTOS

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CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN

# Club spotlight

**Name:** Dingbat Productions  
**Purpose:** To spread cultural awareness and appreciation of theater to UTB, and to promote participation in the performing arts.  
**Established:** 2008  
**Adviser:** William Berg, Engineering Department chair and associate professor

**President:** Ivette Ugalde  
**Vice President:** Andres Zambrano  
**Treasurer:** Diego Castilleja  
**Activities:** “And Then There Were None” theater production in March and “Bang Bang You’re Dead” in April  
**Meetings:** 5 to 7 p.m. every Wednesday in the Student Union’s Salon Gardenia  
**Membership requirements:** None  
**Dues:** \$5 fee for voting rights and right to officially pitch plays and musicals

–Compiled by Marlane Ashley Rodriguez



Members of Dingbat Productions are (front row, from left) Historian Brenda Bazan and President Ivette Ugalde. Middle row: Epi Sanchez, Public Representative Victor Hinojosa, Vice President Andres Zambrano and Secretary Tanya Gutierrez. Back row: Treasurer Diego Castilleja, Josh Machado, Ryan Williams and Sandra Singlaterry.

## SGA

Continued from Page 1

the ability to have outside co-sponsorships, the distribution of reading material such as magazines, damage to property, a new section for student governance, rules and procedures for banner display, among other subtopics.

The proposed amendments were drafted by the Student Affairs Committee, according to Mariscal, who said it was initiated by former Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Vince Solis, Dean of Students Mari Fuentes-Martin, Student Life Director Sergio Martinez, Financial Analyst Yanet McClanahan, Administrative Assistant Debbie Medina, Development Research Associate Celina Garza and himself.

“It’s revised and reviewed every year, or as needed, and we found this one had been lacking, it had been previously reviewed and it just never moved forward because of some pending stuff,” Mariscal said, adding that the proposed revisions are solely “to meet with UT System Regents rules.”

SGA President Arturo Guerra told *The Collegian* that the SGA will discuss the proposed HOP amendments before addressing the students with its recommendations, but he did not indicate when the students would be hearing from the senate.

Fuentes-Martin and Orientation Leader Heather Olague presented the SGA with a hefty-sized bin containing the names of those students who filled out the online course evaluation forms, allowing Guerra,

SGA Vice President of Administration Normalinda Reyna and Vice President of Accounting and Finance Pedro Rangel the opportunity to select the lucky winners of the iPad, which was offered to those who participated in filling out the forms. The iPad winners are Iris Sanchez, Francisco Presa and Andrea Garcia.

Tuesday’s meeting was not official

because the senate lacked a quorum.

After the meeting, *The Collegian* asked Guerra why the general student population was not alerted to the visit by UT System student regent John Davis Rutkauskas.

“I don’t think we had time to advertise,” he

“WE DON’T WANT TO IMPOSE ON [THE UNIVERSITY’S] MISSION AND INTERRUPT ANYBODY’S ABILITY--OR FREEDOM--TO A RIGHT TO AN EDUCATION. SO THERE ARE SOME LIMITATIONS TO SPEECH EXPRESSION AND ASSEMBLY.”

David Mariscal  
Judicial Affairs Coordinator

replied.

Rutkauskas met with members of the SGA and UT-Brownsville administrators during a visit to campus on Jan. 19. *The Collegian*, which in the past has attended the student regent’s meeting with the SGA, was not notified of his visit.

Asked about the potential 2.6 percent increase in tuition next fall, which UTB officials sent to the University of Texas System for approval two weeks ago, Guerra said, “I’m not up for new increases in tuition--I don’t like that, but let’s see what they come up with.”

The proposed tuition increase comes on the heels of President Obama’s State of the Union address last Wednesday, in which he told institutions of higher learning, “If you can’t stop tuition from going up, the funding you get from taxpayers will go down.”

lot of fun with the people, [they] got real into it,” Lopez said. “They started dancing with the music and jumped into the water. Up north it’s crazy because they jump into ice cold water, [here] we don’t get ice, but we try our best with our pool.”

See the redesigned  
UTBCOLLEGIAN.COM

## PENGUIN

Continued from Page 3

variety of people here. I’m pretty sure if they saw what we do, they would want to come back.”

She was among the 50 students who jumped in the water.

“Of course I jumped! This is one of the funnest events I have ever done, and it gives us a lot of bragging rights, letting people know we jumped into a [ice-cold] pool,” Margenau said.

Junior Alex Lopez, head lifeguard, said it was his first time hosting the event.

“It was [a] pretty good outcome, I had a

## TSC

Continued from Page 1

center.

“So what they are calling the REK Center ... is actually funded from two different sources,” Lewis said.

The kinesiology building was initially allotted \$8 million. However, when it was combined with the recreation center, its funding increased to \$26,659,170. The REK Center still managed to overrun its budget by \$3.2 million.

Similarly, the Arts Center’s budget, originally \$8 million, increased to \$18 million in September 2006, \$25.2 in June 2008 and \$26,067,957 in November 2009. In order to meet the additional cost of the building, the college used \$762,457 in interest earnings, \$485,000 from UTB’s allocation in Higher Education Assistance Fund monies, \$1 million from TSC’s fund balance, \$2,189,090 from the TSC budget, \$1.7 million in donations, \$356,410 in TSC refinancing of revenue, according to the report of findings.

“It just shows the beauty of the combined resources between the University of Texas and the state and the community college,” board Vice Chairman Dr. Robert Robles said.

Torres countered, “What it shows is that they went over budget, up to \$109 million.”

“I was against going up as high as we did and I made my point known, and I got out-voted,” Trustee David Oliveira said. “... I can’t sit there now and say it wasn’t worth it to do. It is a beautiful place that everybody in this community is enjoying, but when you start saying ‘cost overruns’ in my mind I’m hearing you say that we spent \$45 million that we didn’t have and that’s not true. The money was there, just taken from somewhere else. ... But, let’s be truthful here. We didn’t take money we didn’t have, we just reallocated some of it.”

Torres said that information was not told to the community, taxpayers.

Board Chair Francisco “Kiko” Rendon noted that UTB provided \$4.5 million of the total bond construction cost, while the remainder of the funding came from TSC’s budget, fund balance, interest and refinancing of revenue.

“God forbid, we have to go for another bond [issue] and we should say [to the public], ‘We want another \$20 million.’ What are they going to say?” interjected board Secretary Adela Garza. “You want \$20 million but you are going to spend \$50 [million]. I hope we never have to go for another bond [issue].”

Oliveira reassured Torres and the rest of the board that the community isn’t responsible for the budget overruns.

“Did we leverage money from other sources? You’re dang right, and that’s what a good university and that’s what good planners do and that’s how we built this

beautiful campus,” Oliveira said.

The trustee noted there was community involvement “every step of the way” in the form of bond advisory committees.

“At no point was anybody deceived. ... Would we have done this if we had known that four trustees were going to come along later and end the partnership?” Oliveira said, referring to Rendon, Torres, Adela Garza and Trey Mendez. “Absolutely not. ... And now that it has, we are stuck with some buildings that we are going to have a hard time maintaining.”

Torres iterated his colleagues were putting words in his mouth and that he never said the community was responsible for the \$109 million or that the community had to pay more than the \$68 million.

“I know [Oliveira] uses the word ‘leverage,’ but it’s not leverage,” Torres said. “It’s taking money from somebody else to pay for what you couldn’t pay originally.”

Fetrow’s report notes that the projects appear to have been planned outside of the budget from the beginning.

The audit report also says the bond construction program “appears to have initially been staffed with staff members who may not have had experience managing large construction programs.” The report said UTB had program management staff in place and established lines and levels of authority but suggests improving staff planning and levels of expertise.

It further states that UTB/TSC hired individuals or entities “to perform certain owner functions, including purchasing and quality assurance.” However, there was “little evidence UTB/TSC had planned for these staff additions in advance,” how long they would have to use them or what their roles and responsibilities would be.

Fetrow said project reports were provided to UTB/TSC on a monthly basis or quarterly basis in a “snapshot form.”

“However, the reports didn’t appear to contain trending information,” Fetrow said. “In addition, there does not appear to have been a single source of information related to how its programs budget, cost, contingencies and schedule data were changing over time. To date, as far as we know, we still have not received a final cost report, so the total, actual cost of the program may not be clear.”

Regarding contingency management, “it appears contingency was managed primarily at the project level,” when typically it is done at the program and project levels, the report states.

In the area of payment application reviews, the consulting firm found that UTB/TSC did not perform validations of Broadbuss and Associates’ payment applications early in the program but may have done so later.

“UTB/TSC did not perform validations of the costs to determine whether they



# Application deadline approaches for doctoral program in education

By Viridiana Zúñiga  
SPANISH EDITOR

Forty students are enrolled this semester in the doctoral program in curriculum and instruction at UT-Brownsville, officials say. “[The program] prepares educators to assume leadership positions in institutions of higher education at multiple levels,” said Peter Gawenda, coordinator of the doctorate in education program. Since Fall 2007, the College of Education has offered this doctorate with specializations in bilingual studies, literacy, early childhood, educational leadership, higher education teaching and educational technology.

“This year we are going to offer only bilingual studies, educational technology and higher education teaching,” Gawenda said. “Each specialization requires a certain number of students; we pick only two or three [specializations] per year to make sure that the classes won’t be canceled due to the lack of students.”

Albert Herrera, an assistant professor in the College of Education’s Teaching, Learning and Innovation Department, said: “The doctor of education adds tremendous value to the credentials individuals already have and puts them in the positions of being instructional or administrative leaders.”

The program consists of 66 credit hours; nine are intended for the students to write their dissertation.

“We are working with cohorts--a group of students going through the program together,” Gawenda said. “We are trying to make sure that the cohorts are large enough; this way, the classes won’t be affected if some students drop out.”

Students are expected to participate in

activities and to contribute as members of the community of scholars.

Forty students are enrolled in the program, Gawenda said, adding that the university is recruiting students for the sixth cohort.

To apply, the individual must have a master’s degree in education, a related field or a field matching the specialization; a five-page paper explaining his or her professional goals, scholarly accomplishments, possible topics of interest for pursuing research; and a GPA of 3.25 or higher, among others. The deadline to apply is April 1.

“Each individual will go into an interview process,” Gawenda said. “It is a rigorous evaluation done by faculty to make sure that the potential student will actually make it.”

Eli E. Peña, an associate professor in the Teaching, Learning and Innovation Department, said, “I teach the course that’s at the end of the master’s program in science education, where the students produce a project that helps them in research and writing; it is very helpful if they want to continue with the doctoral program.”

Classes are mostly offered in the evenings and weekends. In educational technology, all classes are online.

The average cost of the doctoral program is \$30,000 per year. However, students could get a scholarship of \$20,000 to \$25,000 per year.

“To apply for the scholarship, the individual has to be enrolled. Then, it will depend on how many students are applying for the scholarships,” Gawenda said. “I understand that, until now, everyone who applied, received one.”

See **DEGREE**, Page 12

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-Compiled by Marlane Ashley Rodriguez



CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN PHOTOS



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# Obama’s health overhaul lags in many states

Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON--Here’s a reality check for President Obama’s health overhaul: Three out of four uninsured Americans live in states that have yet to figure out how to deliver on its promise of affordable medical care.

This is the year that will make or break the health care law. States were supposed to be partners in carrying out the biggest safety net expansion since Medicare and Medicaid, and the White House claims they’re making steady progress.

But an analysis by the Associated Press shows that states are moving in fits and starts. Combined with new insurance coverage estimates from the nonpartisan Urban Institute, it reveals a patchwork nation.

Such uneven progress could have real consequences.

If it continues, it will mean disparities and delays from state to state in carrying out an immense expansion of health insurance scheduled in the law for 2014. That could happen even if the Supreme Court upholds Obama’s law, called the

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

“There will be something there, but if it doesn’t mesh with the state’s culture and if the state is not really supporting it, that certainly won’t help it succeed,” said Urban Institute senior researcher Matthew Buettgens.

The 13 states that have adopted a plan are home to only 1 in 4 of the uninsured. An additional 17 states are making headway, but it’s not clear all will succeed. The 20 states lagging behind account for the biggest share of the uninsured, 42 percent.

Among the lagging states are four with arguably the most to gain. Texas, Florida, Georgia and Ohio together would add more than 7 million people to the insurance rolls, according to Urban Institute estimates, reducing the annual burden of charity care by \$10.7 billion.

“It’s not that we want something for free, but we want something we can afford,” said Vicki McCuiston of Driftwood, Texas, who works two part-time jobs and is uninsured. With the nation’s highest uninsured rate, her state

has made little progress.

The Obama administration says McCuiston and others in the same predicament have nothing to fear.

“The fact of states moving at different rates does not create disparities for a particular state’s uninsured population,” said Steve Larsen, director of the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight at the federal Department of Health and Human Services.

That’s because the law says that if a state isn’t ready, the federal government will step in. Larsen insists the government will be ready, but it’s not as easy as handing out insurance cards.

Someone has to set up health insurance exchanges, new one-stop supermarkets with online and landline capabilities for those who buy coverage individually.

A secure infrastructure must be created to verify income, legal residency and other personal information, and smooth enrollment in private insurance plans or Medicaid. Many middle-class households will be eligible for tax credits to help pay premiums for



With Texas Gov. Rick Perry opposing health care reform, state legislation to satisfy the national law did not pass in 2011.

private coverage. Separate exchanges must be created for small businesses.

“It’s a very heavy lift,” said California’s health secretary, Diana Dooley, whose state was one of the first to approve a plan. “Coverage is certainly important, but it’s not the only part. It is very complex.”

California has nearly 7.5

million residents without coverage, more than half of the 12.7 million uninsured in the states with a plan. An estimated 2.9 million Californians would gain coverage, according to the Urban Institute’s research, funded by the nonpartisan Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Democrats who wrote the overhaul law had hoped that

most states would be willing partners, putting aside partisan differences to build the exchanges and help cover more than 30 million uninsured nationally. It’s not turning out that way.

Some states, mainly those led by Democrats, are far along. Others, usually led by Republicans, have done little. Separately, about half

See **HEALTH**, Page 12

## Who’s Who AMONG STUDENTS IN American Universities & Colleges

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For further information, contact David Marquez at 882-5141.

## TEXAS SHORTS

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### TEXAS REDISTRICTING

WASHINGTON--Testimony wrapped up Thursday in a trial determining whether new political district lines drawn by the Texas Legislature violated the federal Voting Rights Act. Attention will now quickly shift to San Antonio where another federal court is charged with drawing interim maps.

### STANDARDIZED TESTING

AUSTIN--State Board of Education members pressed the Texas education commissioner Tuesday about whether high-stakes standardized testing is warping classroom teaching and forcing students to spend too much time preparing for the exams. Robert Scott acknowledged that test results have become the overwhelming standard by which education is measured in Texas.

### PERRY POLL

AUSTIN--A new poll shows Texas Gov. Rick Perry’s approval rating in his home state at a 10-year low and more than half of Texans don’t want him to run for another term as governor. The poll shows 40 percent of Texans approve of the job he’s doing as governor. The telephone survey of 806 Texans was paid for by a group of Texas’ largest newspapers.

### GREAT DEBATERS VS. USC

DALLAS--Teams from Wiley College and the University of Southern California were scheduled for a rematch Friday of the 1935 debate that saw the small, historically black school prevail over the nationally known, mostly white powerhouse. The exhibition will be held at Wiley in the small town of Marshall, near the Texas border with Louisiana. The 1935 debate at USC took place when the nation was heavily segregated and helped inspire “The Great Debaters,” a 2007 movie starring Denzel Washington.

### IMMIGRATION-TUITION LAW

AUSTIN--Texas colleges must send illegal immigrants who pay in-state college tuition rates reminders that they promised to seek legal status in exchange, a tweak in state law officials unanimously approved Thursday. The tuition break was a flashpoint issue that helped doom Republican Gov. Rick Perry’s campaign for president and the rule change by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is a small step toward putting more pressure on those students to follow up on their pledge.

### DALLAS STABBINGS

DALLAS--Three people were stabbed to death in a Dallas home and a suspect was caught in a neighboring city, Dallas police said Thursday. Cpl. Melinda Gutierrez says the bodies of two women and a man were found after a witness called 911. Gutierrez says a woman and a child who were at the home during the stabbings were interviewed by police.



# PRO- FESSOR of the MONTH

**Name:**  
Angelika Potempa  
**Hometown:**  
Hennigsdorf, Germany  
**Number of years working at UTB/TSC:** 11  
**Teaches:**  
Philosophy



**Purpose of class:** “To help the students to become more considerate concerning the opinions of others, learn to provide good arguments if they have to defend their opinions and stay open-minded. ... Be a critical thinker, who does not buy into all kinds of things that politicians or somebody else might be willing to sell you.”

**Degrees:** Doctorate in German philosophy and ethics in 1982 from Martin Luther University in Halle-Wittenberg, Germany, and a doctorate in 1990 in political theory from Humboldt University in Berlin.

**Favorite subjects:** Philosophy, psychology, government and anthropology.  
**Hobbies:** Reading and listening to opera music.

**Interests:** Reading, writing and hanging out with her students. She is the adviser and founder of the student organization, The Philosophy Club, in 2000. The club’s radio show, “Thinking Out Loud,” can be heard on UTB Radio’s website [www.utbradio.com](http://www.utbradio.com) from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. each Wednesday.

**Previous occupations:** Taught at Martin Luther and Humboldt universities in Germany and at the University of Wisconsin in Eau Claire for a total of 10 years.

**Interesting fact:** Potempa witnessed the fall of the Berlin Wall in Germany. “I can tell people, my students, a lot about life in totalitarian systems and what I really hated about it,” she said.

—Compiled by Marlane Ashley Rodriguez

## TSC

Continued from Page 6

were allowed by the contract or not,” the report states. “UTB/TSC did not engage an independent third-party auditor to perform a similar function on a periodic basis. It does not appear that the board received program-level cost to date and cost to complete information in one package.”

The university did have purchasing limit lines of authority in place, the report states.

“Over the course of the program, purchasing lists often increased as the projects progressed (e.g. signage, acoustical equipment, seating) as a result of the value engineering process.”

The report says the university “likely incurred unanticipated overhead costs associated with receiving, validating purchases and inspection.” It states some procurement processes were eventually documented but not added to the procurement manual.

Fetrow noted TSC did not have documented quality assurance/quality control processes or personnel prior to hiring a QA/QC manager in March 2008. The manager implemented QA/

QC processes consistent with industry standards.

There was little QA/QC document control during the program and the QA/QC processes were not documented for future use, according to the report.

Robles asked Fetrow if his consulting firm interviewed Broaddus and Associates or UT-Brownsville President Juliet V. García for its report. Fetrow replied that it did not.

The vice chair also asked Fetrow how much the audit report cost.

Fetrow replied that their budget was set at \$38,000, but the final cost was \$39,000.

A trustee member called out, “Cost overrun!” spurring laughter across the room.

Oliveira noted that Spire Consulting’s report found that Broaddus and Associates are a “very reputable, good organization.”

“So most of the criticisms were on the TSC side,” the trustee said. “There are some things we should have watched more carefully.”

In other business, the board:

--approved holding joint elections May 12 with the Brownsville Navigation District for trustee positions 6 and 7.

The next meeting of the board of trustees is scheduled Feb. 16.

recently graduated, that made No. 1 nationwide in his dissertation in bilingual education,” Gawenda said. “And a student who became the headmaster of an international school in Singapore.”

Among the Ed.D. graduates, Gawenda said six of eight students are Hispanic women.

“My goal has always been to make sure that females and Hispanics have the chance to get their doctorates.”

He encourages individuals who graduated from Mexican universities to apply.

For more information, call Assistant Professor Jesus Abrego (Educational Leadership) at 882-7655; Associate Professor John Sutterby (Early Childhood), 882-5714; Professor Yvonne Freeman (Bilingual Studies), 882-5725; Associate Professor Rene Corbeil (Educational Technology), 882-5750; Assistant Professor Albert Herrera (Higher Education Teaching), 882-8929; and Gawenda, 882-5769.

## HEALTH

Continued from Page 11

the states are suing to overturn the law.

Time is running out for states, which must have their plans ready for a federal approval deadline of Jan. 1, 2013. Those not ready risk triggering the default requirement that Washington run their exchange.

Yet in states where Republican repudiation of the health care law has blocked exchanges, there’s little incentive to advance before the Supreme Court rules. A decision is expected this summer, and many state legislatures aren’t scheduled to meet past late spring.

The result if the law is upheld could be greater federal sway over health care in the states, the very outcome conservatives say they want to prevent.

“If you give states the opportunity to decide their own destiny, and some choose to ignore it for partisan reasons, they almost make the case against themselves for more federal intervention,” said Sen. Ben Nelson (D-Neb.).

A conservative, Nelson was on the winning side of a heated argument among Democrats over who should run exchanges, the feds or the states. Liberals lost their demand for a federal exchange, insulated from state politics.

“It’s pretty hard to take care of the states when they don’t take care of themselves,” said Nelson, who regrets that the concession he fought for has been dismissed by so many states.

The AP’s analysis divided states into four broad groups: those that have adopted a plan for exchanges, those that made substantial progress, those where the outlook is unclear, and those with no significant progress. AP statehouse reporters were consulted in cases of conflicting information.

Thirteen states, plus the District of Columbia, have adopted a plan.

By contrast, in 20 states either the outlook is unclear or there has been no significant progress. Those states include more than 21 million of the 50 million uninsured Americans.

Four have made no significant progress. They are Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana and New Hampshire. The last three returned planning money to the federal government. In Arkansas, Democratic Gov. Mike Beebe ran into immovable GOP opposition in the Legislature. Beebe acknowledges that the federal government will have to run the exchange, but is exploring a fallback option.

In the other 16 states, the outlook is unclear because of failure to advance legislation or paralyzing political disputes that often pit Republicans fervently trying to stop what they deride as “Obamacare” against fellow Republicans who are more pragmatic.

In Kansas, for example, Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger is pushing hard for a state exchange, but Gov. Sam Brownback returned a \$31 million federal grant, saying the state would not act before the Supreme Court rules. Both officials are Republicans.

“It’s just presidential politics,” said Praeger, discussing the situation nationally. “It’s less about whether exchanges make sense and more about trying to repeal the whole law.” As a result, outlook is unclear for a state with 361,000 uninsured residents.

There is a bright spot for Obama and backers of the law.

An additional 17 states have made substantial progress, although that’s no guarantee of success. Last week in Wisconsin, GOP Gov. Scott Walker abruptly halted planning and announced he will return \$38 million in federal money.

The AP defined states making substantial progress as ones where governors or legislatures have made a significant commitment to set up exchanges. Another important factor was state acceptance of a federal exchange establishment grant.

That group accounts for just under one-third of the uninsured, about 16 million people.

It includes populous states such as New York, Illinois, North Carolina and New Jersey, which combined would add more than 3 million people to the insurance rolls.

Several are led by Republican governors, including Virginia and Indiana, which have declared their intent to establish insurance exchanges under certain conditions. Other states that have advanced under Republican governors include Arizona and New Mexico.

For uninsured people living in states that have done little, the situation is demoralizing.

Gov. Rick Perry’s opposition to the law scuttled plans to advance an exchange bill in the Texas Legislature last year, when Perry was contemplating his presidential run. The Legislature doesn’t meet this year, so the situation is unclear.

McCuiston and her husband, Dan, are among the nearly 6.7 million Texans who lack coverage. Dan is self-employed as the owner of a specialty tree service. Vicki works part time for two nonprofit organizations. The McCuistions have been uninsured throughout their 17-year marriage, although their three daughters now have coverage through the Children’s Health Insurance Program. Dan McCuiston has been nursing a bad back for years, and it only seems to get worse.

“For me it almost feels like a ticking time bomb,” his wife said.

Dan McCuiston says he doesn’t believe Americans have a constitutional right to health care, but he would take advantage of affordable coverage if it was offered to him. He’s exasperated with Perry and other Texas politicians. “They give a lot of rhetoric toward families, but their actions don’t meet up with what they are saying,” he said.

Perry’s office says it’s principle, not lack of compassion.

“Gov. Perry believes ‘Obamacare’ is unconstitutional, misguided and unsustainable, and Texas, along with other states, is taking legal action to end this massive government overreach,” said spokeswoman Lucy Nashed. “There are no plans to implement an exchange.”

## DEGREE

Continued from Page 7

He said the faculty who teach in the doctoral program are experts in their field.

“In bilingual studies, we have two that are nationally and internationally known,” he said.

“We bring a lifetime of experience and knowledge to students that will continue spreading what they have learned through us,” Herrera said.

Gawenda also mentioned that U.S. News & World Report listed the College of Education’s online master’s degree program in educational technology as 14th in Online Graduate Degree Programs in Education.

“Our program is nationally accepted,” he said. “If you look around, you will not find Texas A&M [University] or UT-Austin in that ranking for that specific program.”

UTB keeps track of the students after graduation, getting such information as where they are employed and how their employers rate them.

“We have had one individual, who

→ 88 63

**The Office of Student Media is seeking applicants for the position of: -Webcast Editor**

**for the Spring 2012 semester. Applicants must be enrolled at UTB/TSC and have and maintain a grade-point average of 2.5 or higher per semester.**

All applicants must submit a 3 min. video, a résumé and an unofficial transcript along with their application.

**The deadline to apply is noon Friday, Feb. 3, 2012. Applications are available in Student Union 1.28. For more information, call the Office of Student Media at 882-5143.**

UTB/TSC does not discriminate based on gender, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, veteran status or sexual orientation.

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# Próxima fecha límite para el programa doctoral

## Se ofrecen 3 especializaciones para el doctorado en educación

Por Viridiana Zúñiga  
EDITORA DE ESPAÑOL



Cuarenta estudiantes están inscritos este semestre en el programa doctoral en currículo e instrucción en UT-Brownsville, de acuerdo a fuentes oficiales.

“[El programa] prepara educadores para que asuman cargos de alto rango en instituciones de enseñanza superior en múltiples niveles”, dijo Peter Gawenda, coordinador del programa de doctorado en educación.

Desde otoño de 2007, la Facultad de Educación ha ofrecido este doctorado con especialidades en estudios bilingües, alfabetización, liderazgo educativo, formación en enseñanza superior y formación infantil temprana y tecnología educativa.

“Este año vamos a ofrecer solamente estudios bilingües, tecnología educativa y formación en enseñanza superior”, Gawenda dijo. “Esto es debido a que las clases de dichas especialidades requieren cierta cantidad de alumnos y queremos

evitar que se cancelen debido a la falta de éstos”.

Albert Herrera, profesor asociado (assistant professor) del Departamento de Enseñanza, Aprendizaje e Innovación de la Facultad de Educación, dijo: “El doctorado en educación le añade un gran valor al currículo de las personas y las pone al mando de altos cargos docentes y administrativos”.

El programa consta de 66 horas, nueve de las cuales se destinan al desarrollo de la tesis.

“Estamos trabajando con cohortes-grupos de estudiantes que cursan el programa juntos”, Gawenda dijo. “Tratamos de asegurarnos de que los cohortes de alumnos sean suficientemente grandes; de esta manera, las clases no se verán afectadas en caso de que algunos estudiantes dejen el curso”.

Los estudiantes deberán participar en actividades y contribuir como miembros de la comunidad escolar.

De acuerdo a Gawenda, la universidad está reclutando estudiantes para el sexto cohorte.

Para entrar, la persona debe tener una maestría en educación o en un campo relacionado o que corresponda a una de las especialidades; un documento de cinco páginas donde explique sus metas profesionales, logros académicos y posibles temas de investigación, además de un promedio general mínimo de 3.25. La fecha límite para entregar la solicitud es el 1º de abril.

“Cada persona pasará por un proceso de entrevistas”, dijo Gawenda. “Es una investigación rigurosa que el profesorado hace para asegurarse de que el estudiante

logrará graduarse”.

Eli E. Peña, profesor adjunto (assistant professor) del Departamento de Enseñanza, Aprendizaje e Innovación de la Facultad de Educación, dijo: “Yo imparto uno de los últimos cursos del programa de maestría de ciencias de la educación, en el que los alumnos trabajan en un proyecto que los guía en escritura e investigación; esto le es de gran ayuda a aquellos que intentan entrar al programa doctoral”.

Las clases, en su mayoría, se ofrecen en la tarde y algunas los sábados. Los cursos de tecnología educativa se imparten solamente en línea.

El costo promedio del programa es de \$30,000 por año. Sin embargo, los estudiantes pueden obtener una beca de \$20,000 a \$25,000 por año.

“Para solicitar una beca, el alumno debe estar inscrito. Después, todo dependerá de la cantidad de estudiantes que también están solicitándola”, dijo Gawenda. “Según mi conocimiento, hasta ahora, la beca se le ha dado a todo el que la ha pedido”.

Él dijo que los catedráticos del programa doctoral son expertos en su campo.

“En estudios bilingües, tenemos dos miembros del profesorado reconocidos nacional e internacionalmente”, dijo él.

“Ofrecemos a los estudiantes nuestras innumerables experiencias y conocimientos, sabiendo que ellos continuarán esparciendo lo que aprendieron a través de nosotros”, dijo Herrera.

Gawenda también mencionó que U.S. News & World Report, clasificó al programa de maestría en línea en tecnología educativa de la Facultad de

Educación como el 14vo en la lista de Online Graduate Degree Programs in Education.

“Nuestro programa es aceptado nacionalmente”, él dijo. “Si ponen atención, ni el programa de la universidad Texas A&M ni el de UT-Austin figuran en la lista.”

UTB se mantiene en contacto con los estudiantes aún después de la graduación para informarse sobre el puesto que ejercen y si su desempeño satisface las expectativas de sus empleadores.

“Uno de nuestros graduados obtuvo el primer lugar a nivel nacional en su tesis de educación bilingüe”, Gawenda dijo, refiriéndose a Mario Ferrón. “Otro de ellos es ahora el director de una escuela internacional en Singapur”.

Entre los graduados del doctorado, Gawenda dijo que seis de ocho estudiantes son mujeres hispanas.

“Mi meta siempre ha sido asegurarme de que las mujeres y los hispanos tengan la oportunidad de recibir sus doctorados”.

Él alienta a aquellos que se graduaron de universidades mexicanas a hacer una solicitud para entrar al programa.

Para más información, llame al Profesor Asociado Jesús Ábrego (Liderazgo Educativo) al 882-7655; Profesor Adjunto John Sutterby (Formación infantil temprana), 882-5714; Profesora Yvonne Freeman (Estudios Bilingües), 882-5725; Profesor Adjunto René Corbeil (Tecnología Educativa), 882-7570; Profesor Asociado Albert Herrera (Formación en enseñanza superior), 882-8929; y a Gawenda, 882-5769.

# La vida y el arte a través de los ojos de Palmenez

## Miembro del profesorado exhibe ‘Machistas y Vanidad’

Por Marlane Ashley Rodríguez  
THE COLLEGIAN

La tinta roja amarillenta en una pintura del rostro de una mujer con el pecho cubierto con un collar de escarabajos multicolor y abundates tatuajes vibrantes en las manos, captaron la atención de una multitud de estudiantes en Rusteberg Hall, el pasado martes.

Este óleo sobre lienzo se titula “Strength of Symbols” y es una de las obras de la exhibición “Machistas y Vanidad” del profesor de Artes Visuales Noel Palmenez, que forma parte de la 27a. temporada del programa de Patron of the Arts.

La colección consta de 19 piezas que abordan los temas de masculinidad y vanidad.

Palmenez dijo que su inspiración viene de la búsqueda de los hombres por ser varoniles y poderosos y de la de las mujeres, por ser bellas.

“Traté de enfocarme en la idea de nuestra debilidad interna”, dijo él. “De que somos consumidos fácilmente por las cosas”.

El artista dijo que le tomó de 40



MIGUEL ÁNGEL ROBERTS/COLLEGIAN  
Sergio García, estudiante de arte de tercer año, se maravilla ante “Your Last Breath,” tres obras serigráficas hechas por el profesor de UTB/TSC, Noel Palmenez.

a 60 horas el crear cada pintura.

“Pasas mucho tiempo en una sola pieza, te vuelves casi íntimo con cada diminuta área con la que trabajas”, dijo él.

“To Find Beauty within Life” (óleo sobre liezo) correspondió al tema de vanidad de forma impecable.

La pintura muestra a una mujer mayor que intenta lucir más bella usando una guirnalda hawaiana. Pájaros revolotean a su alrededor y algunos reposan sobre la guirnalda.

Tres cráneos en serigrafía, titulados “Your Last Breath”, hechos con

# Estudiante de hoy

**Nombre:** Julio César Romero Quintero

**Edad:** 23 años

**Especialidad:** Contabilidad

**Clasificación:** Estudiante de tercer año

**Fecha de graduación:** Verano de 2013

**Promedio:** 3.02

**Ciudad natal:** Distrito Federal, México

**Pasatiempos:** “Leer la biblia, pasar tiempo con mi familia y jugar fútbol”.

**¿Cuáles son tus metas?** “Graduarme lo antes posible; conseguir un trabajo que me ofrezca un buen ambiente y ser de utilidad a la comunidad”.

**Actividades extracurriculares:** “Soy parte del club ASPIRE y de Disability Services, pero también trabajo cuidando a mi hermano”.

**¿Cuál es tu inspiración?** “Mi inspiración es Dios, el que me motiva a hacer las cosas y me da esperanza para salir adelante”.

**¿Cuál sería tu trabajo ideal?** “Estar en una compañía haciendo auditorías y [calculando] los impuestos”.

**¿Qué técnicas usas para estudiar?** “Estudio en grupo y tomo tiempo para

estudiar, también le pregunto a los maestros”.

**¿Cuál es tu consejo para los alumnos de nuevo ingreso?** “Que aprovechen lo que la universidad les ofrece y el conocimiento que tienen sus maestros”.

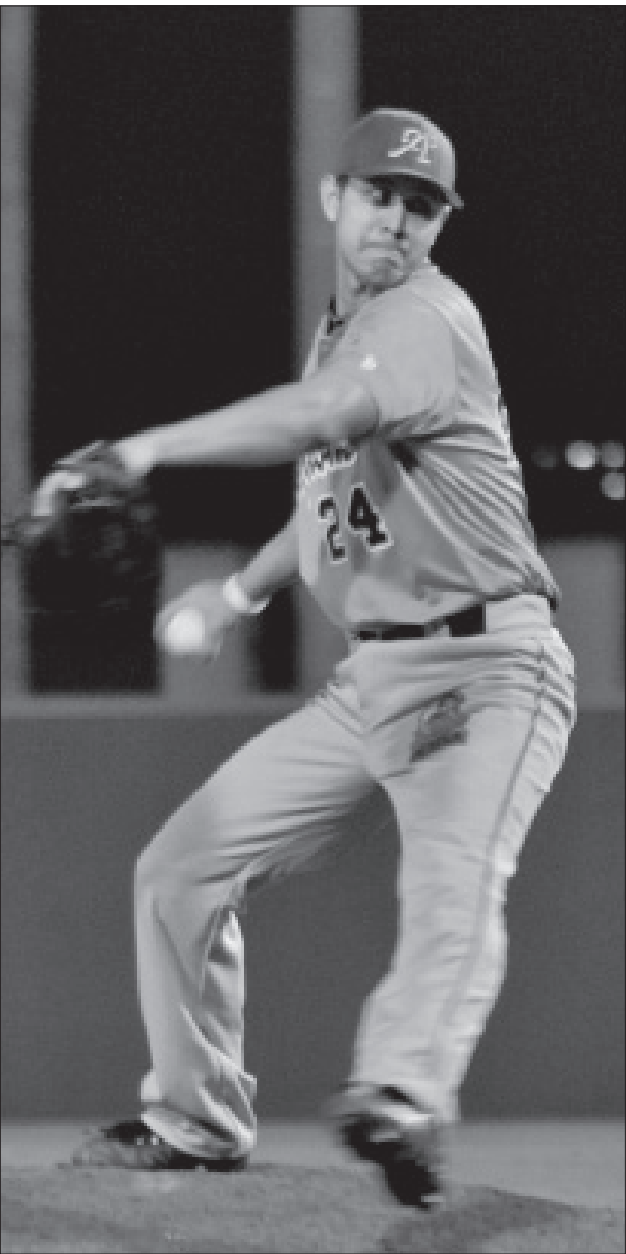
**Anécdota:** “La primera vez que asistí a la universidad, me metí en la clase equivocada y, por vergüenza a preguntar y por haber llegado tarde, me enteré hasta que terminó”.

--Recopilado por Jasmin Euceda



JASMIN EUCEDA/COLLEGIAN





CHRISTOPHER PEÑA/COLLEGIAN  
Julian Moya, a Scorpion baseball player from 2007-11, pitches against the UTB/TSC Baseball Team on Jan. 20 at Scorpion Field.

# Past vs. present

By Valerie Nichole Secrease  
SPORTS EDITOR

The UTB/TSC Baseball Team is off to a good start this season with a 14-2 victory over the Alumni team and a four-game shutout against the Laredo Community College Palominos.

Twenty-six former players of UTB/TSC came back to Scorpion Field Jan. 20 to participate in the Alumni game, including Oscar Gallegos (1979) and Brian Bustos (2010).

Bustos said he was excited to be back on Scorpion Field and playing against the team.

“It feels good coming back, it’s come a long way since I’ve been here, but [the field] looks amazing,” Bustos said. “I’m excited for these guys.”

He said it was great to see all of his old teammates again and catching up with them, but admits that they aren’t in the best of shape like they used to be.

“We were really close my junior and senior year, so it’s good to see all of my buddies back, and see where they are going now,” Bustos said. “But we look horrible playing, we’re getting old.”

The Scorpions collected 12 hits throughout the entire game, according to information provided by the Athletics Department. Peter Maldonado, Colby Henscey, Joel Fernandez, Robert Mariscal and Scott Frazier each collected two hits. Henscey drove in five runs, while Mariscal brought in four and Fernandez three. Henscey and Zach Cordia scored three runs each.

On the pitcher’s mound, Rory Young, Marcos De Leon and Salvador Villalpando combined for a no-hitter and struck out 18 alumni. Young pitched the first four innings, during which he struck out nine and walked only one. He also allowed two unearned runs in the first inning due to a left-field error.

De Leon went the next four innings after Young, striking out nine and walking two. And in the final inning, Villalpando struck out two of the three batters he faced.

After the game, Head Baseball Coach Brian Aughney said he expects the same from his players this season as he always has before.

“We expect our guys to give 100 percent effort all the time, we’re going to play hard, and we’re going to play the game the right way,” Aughney said. “That is what we talked about, that’s the way we’ve played in my time here, and that is going to stay the same.”

Aughney said that the main thing he hopes to accomplish this semester is winning nationals.

Scorpion shortstop Robert “R.J.” Garza said he had a lot of fun sharing the field with the alumni.

“It was pretty fun getting to see all of my old friends, it was joyful. It was just fun basically,” Garza said.

Garza said some of his expectations for this season are to win conference and have his community and school support the team.

“Our expectations are to be conference champions and win the national championship,” he said. “We would also like everyone to come out and support us.”

Besides defeating the Alumni, the Scorpions won all four scrimmages Jan. 21 and 22 against Laredo Community College.

The Scorpions had strong pitching performances in the doubleheader Jan. 21, winning 4-0 and 4-3. On Jan. 22, the team continued its winning streak by beating the Palominos in two scrimmages, 14-11 and 4-2.

**Brought to you by: Campus Recreation**

## Special Events

### Word Search

H	S	P	O	R	T	S	O	W	B	N	D	U	Y	L
F	E	E	T	M	Y	L	Q	S	O	U	A	E	T	M
Y	C	A	Z	K	Y	T	E	A	N	F	T	M	K	Y
Z	A	V	L	M	N	Z	H	B	G	K	E	U	T	B
G	U	D	P	T	I	N	V	S	O	G	S	T	E	U
D	A	I	I	R	H	M	G	J	B	V	N	S	Z	V
M	C	M	P	L	U	F	S	M	A	R	G	O	R	P
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R	N	L	C	S	E	K	L	F	Q	N	X	L	B	A
K	F	G	G	K	H	T	M	T	P	D	U	O	B	O
P	K	D	P	V	X	M	K	Y	E	W	X	X	C	C
P	E	N	G	U	I	N	P	L	U	N	G	E	O	I
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# UTSA<sup>®</sup> THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

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**The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) will be visiting The University of Texas at Brownsville to provide information on how to develop a strong graduate school application.**

- Information Sessions will provide the following:
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  - Information on Financial Aid
  - Testing Requirements

**When: Monday, February 6, 2012**  
**Where: The University of Texas at Brownsville**  
**Times: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. (UBCB, room 2.204)**  
**6:00 p.m – 7:30 p.m. (MRC South, room 117)**

To register online visit:  
<http://www.graduateschool.utsa.edu/events>





# Birdie of the Week



**Name:** Anthony Milligan  
**Classification:** Senior  
**Major:** Exercise science  
**Sport:** Golf

## How did you start playing golf? How old were you?

“I started playing golf when I was probably about 7 years old. My dad took me out and just started putting clubs in my hand, until he started realizing that I was left-handed instead of right-handed, so we kind of just put a little junk set together and I went out with my brother. We’d all go out there as a family, and just bang balls around on the range, and I was never really a golfer, I was always a baseball player, but I just love the game, and eventually I ended up playing high school [golf] and now I’m here in college, playing.”

## Who do you look up to?

“Probably my brother, because he has done everything that I already did, and when you see someone who has already done what you’ve done, you realize it’s really hard to do and he did it with grace, poise and integrity. I look up to him as a golfer and as a brother; he is just a great role model to have.”

## What do you enjoy the most about playing golf?

“Probably just being outside. I mean every other sport you’re in an arena, or some confined area, but in golf you’re out there just playing in God’s beautiful creation, just banging a little white ball around. Some guys want to get mad about it if they don’t play good, but the more I play golf the more I realize I’m just glad to be out there having fun.”

## What are some of your hobbies?

“I like hunting, I like fishing. I like to sit in my room and play guitar a lot, that’s probably what I love to do. Singing comes along, it’s natural. It goes hand in hand with guitar.”

## What does golf mean to you?

“Golf probably means, I mean I want to say life but that would be too dramatic. I would say golf means getting away from life, really; it’s putting everything behind, the city life, all the lights and the glamour and just going and having a good time with family and friends. When you’re out there, no one is bothering you, you’re looking at the birds, the squirrels, and you’re just out there having a good time.”

## Do you have any secret talents that people might not know about?

“I would say guitar, and obviously going with guitar you probably want to sing a little bit. I don’t really know how good I sing, or what key I’m really good at, but I like to sing and play and I do my best at it.”

## What’s the proudest moment you’ve had in golf?

“My proudest moment probably has to be last year at conference. We were at South Padre Island Golf Course, and we were leading after the first day, and going into the second day I was the first one off the tee, and the pressure was on me to shoot a really good round and come in with a really good round. I went out there and shot 73, and I was really proud of myself for taking the pressure and putting the good round in.”

## What’s next for you after graduating?

“After graduating, I’m probably going to look into a physical therapy assistant program. My degree is in exercise science, and I will probably play a little golf on the side, maybe a few qualifying tournaments here and there, but physical therapy is my main goal.”

--Valerie Nichole Secrease

# Scorpions sting Tigers in opening game

## First win of the season for baseball team

By Valerie Nichole Secrease

SPORTS EDITOR

The UTB/TSC Baseball Team edged Nebraska’s Doane College Tigers 1-0 in its Opening Day game Thursday night at Scorpion Field.

Shortstop Joel Fernandez scored the run for the Scorpions in the second inning.

The Scorpions had major pitching performances on the mound by junior Rory Young and Kale Wierenga.

Young pitched six innings; he walked 5, allowed only one hit and had six strikeouts. Wierenga relieved Young at the bottom of the sixth and finished off the game with no walks, one hit and two strikeouts.

After the game, Young said he’s still getting into the swing of things after winter break, but hopes to keep performing for his team.

“Well, I just came back from Christmas [break], and shaking a little bit of the rust off was the biggest problem, but, hopefully, I can come in and throw some more strikes later on,” he said.

Young said his motivation for the rest of the semester is not only that this is the team’s last season, but also to win and play hard.

“Basically this is our last season and we’re really going to take it to them, we’re going to try and win every single ball game, and go out and play as hard as we can,” he said. Sophomore



MIGUEL ANGEL ROBERTS/COLLEGIAN

UTB/TSC’s Rory Young pitches against Nebraska’s Doane College Thursday night at Scorpion Field. The Scorpions defeated the Tigers 1-0. Young pitched for six innings.

outfielder Colby Henscey said it felt nice to win the first game of the season after all of the hard work that they have been putting in.

“We’ve been working hard all fall for this and even though it was only 1-0, we still came and played our hearts out, and it was good to win,” Henscey said.

The outfielder said he appreciates the support of all the fans who attended the game and cheered the team on. He hopes the support

continues throughout the season.

“It was great,” Henscey said. “We need as much support as we can get. I mean this is our last season, so we’re coming out with a bang.”

Head Coach Brian Aughney said the team performed well overall in its first game and accomplished the overall goal, which is to win.

“Rory threw really well, and Kale came in and shut the door for two-and-a-third innings,” Aughney said. “We beat a good pitcher, Chance [Brull] from Doane, he is really good. So I was proud of our guys to go out and get the “W.” We executed some things that we needed to, defensively we played solid, so overall a great day.”

He said they still have the same goal in for the rest of the season, and that is to win.

“We’re here to win baseball games and win a championship, that was the understanding that we recruited these guys on,” Aughney. “As far as the situation that we’re in, I don’t know that it has given us any extra motivation, but it’s definitely got us all on board and we’re all rolling in the same direction. These guys came here to win a championship, and that’s what we are going to go after.”

The Scorpions faced the Doane College Tigers again on Saturday and Sunday. Results were not available at press time.

# Community helps celebrate volleyball team’s national championship

By Valerie Nichole Secrease

SPORTS EDITOR

Alan Jackson’s “Good Times” blared from a loudspeaker as Grupo Folklórico Tizatlán led about 30 people on the Manuel Garza Gym court in a line dance.

They were among 200 fans who gathered in the gym Jan. 20 to celebrate the UTB/TSC Volleyball Team’s national championship.

UTB/TSC student Nestor AnDress, brother of Scorpion defensive specialist Anayeli Treviño, sang the national anthem and the UTB/TSC Drumline pumped up the crowd.

The Scorpions line danced to “Good Times” before each match throughout the season, including the Dec. 3 NAIA championship game against California’s Concordia University.

Several of the players gave speeches and talked about their experiences at the national tournament in Sioux City, Iowa, last month. Speakers also included Athletics Director and Head Coach Todd Lowery, Assistant Coach Roberta Santos and UT-Brownsville President Juliet V. García.

“Thank you, ladies. This year has been a pretty tough year for us here, lots of things going on, so we needed it,” García said in an apparent reference to the ongoing dissolution of the UT-Brownsville and Texas Southmost College partnership. “We needed a win, and I can’t think of any better way than to have our women’s volleyball team take us all the way to the top.”

Senior volleyball player and team captain Katharina Nobel said the feeling of having members of the community and university present at the celebration was indescribable.

“Oh, it has been great; it has been a great year,” Nobel said. “The support has been growing every year, and we have had support from faculty, other students, families, it’s awesome, it’s definitely not describable.”

Being a national championship captain comes with a lot of responsibility, she said.

“Well, I’m very proud of course, but it has been a challenge, too, because it’s a lot of responsibility, so I was nervous, but the coaches trusted me and I had a great season,” Nobel said.



HÉCTOR AGUILAR/COLLEGIAN

Scorpion right-side hitter Michelle Marques (center) teaches UT-Brownsville Vice President for Business Affairs Rosemary Martinez the steps to the Alan Jackson “Good Times” line dance during the Jan. 20 NAIA volleyball national championship celebration in the Garza Gym.

She said even though the team faced some challenges, at the end of the day they are all a big family and they worked hard together to win the national title.

“Well, there were a lot of challenges,” Nobel said. “First of all, when 13 girls are together there are always some kind of problems, but we came together. It has been a great team, we are like one big family, and we practiced so hard to get where we [are].

“Coach talked earlier about the losses in California; that was a great challenge, to come back from that and prepare for the nationals, so we’re really proud.”

Attendees received free hot dogs, chips, drinks and Scorpion water bottles.

The players and coaches signed T-shirts after the celebration.



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